

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 SCI-06 HEW-08 COME-00

INT-08 HUD-02 DODE-00 CEQ-02 EB-11 IO-14 EPA-04

TRSY-11 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 SAJ-01 DRC-01 OIC-04 /169 W

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R 221653Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 547

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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DOT FOR DR. GREGORY, NHTSA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, NATO, BE

SUBJECT: CCMS: PARIS MEETING ON ROAD SAFETY PILOT STUDY
FOLLOW-UP, MAY 10

REF: STATE 45962, 45964 AND 51978; BRUSSELS 1456

1. EMBASSY ASKED MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL VREBOS TODAY WHETHER HE PLANNED TO ATTEND THE PARIS MEETING ON MAY 10 AND INFORMED HIM THAT MESSRS.GREGORY, GERONDEAU, CALVERT, CAMPBELL, HELDMANN AND PROBABLY OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS WOULD BE PRESENT. VREBOS SAID THAT HE HAD NOT YET REPLIED TO DR. GREGORY'S INVITATION (DELIVERED ON MARCH 18) BECAUSE THE LOCAL POLITICAL SITUATION MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO COMMIT HIMSELF. (ATTEMPTS TO FORM A GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN UNDER WAY FOR SIX WEEKS, AND WE CANNOT PREDICT THE OUTCOME.) IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, VREBOS PLANS TO ATTEND. IF NOT, HE SAID, HE "WILL SEND MR. NICOLAS AND MR. DE WOLF" TO REPRESENT HIM AND HIS

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MINISTRY.

2. P. NICOLAS AND F. DE WOLF ARE DIRECTORS OF ADMINISTRATION FOR, RESPECTIVELY, VEHICLE REGULATIONS AND ROAD TRAFFIC. BOTH HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN CCMS ROAD SAFETY WORK AND ARE KNOWN TO US EXPERTS. THE EMBASSY HAD THEM IN MIND WHEN SUGGESTING THAT DR. GREGORY OFFER VREBOS THE POSSIBILITY OF SENDING AN ALTERNATE TO THE MEETING (BRUSSELS 1456). WE TOOK STATE 51978 AS AN INDICATION THAT THIS WAS NOT DESIRED, AND THE INVITATION WAS TRANSMITTED AS RECEIVED IN STATE 45964.

3. WE RELIZE THAT NICOLAS AND DE WOLF ARE JUNIOR TO THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE MEETING. ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY MAY BE ALL THAT BELGIUM HAS TO OFFER. THE BELGIANS, AND VREBOS IN PARTICULAR, HAVE MADE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE CCMS ROAD SAFETY PILOT STUDY. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND AGAIN THAT NICOLAS AND DE WOLF BE WELCOMED IF VREBOS IS FORCED BY LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCE TO DECLINE THE INVITATION.

4. PLEASE ADVISE. STRAUSSZ-HUPE

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